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volume, however, brings together everything essential that has ever been made out in regard to *Amphioxus*, so that zoologists will everywhere feel grateful to Mr. Willey for placing in their hands this very useful summary of its life history. The work contains not a little that is new, and some new figures not hitherto published. A very complete bibliography and index completes the volume. One hundred and thirty-three titles are comprised in the list of papers and works consulted in the preparation of the volume. If the other volumes in course of preparation by the professors in biology of Columbia University are up to the high standard of the present one, that institution is to be congratulated upon the enterprise of those who have initiated the project.—R.

Correlation Papers of the U. S. Geol. Survey : Archean and Algonkian.²—This memoir, written by Prof. C. R. Van Hise, is the seventh of the Correlation Papers series, and is, perhaps, one of the most important of that valuable set. The pre-Cambrian rocks of the United States and Canada, for convenience, are considered under the heads of seven districts, which are severally discussed in as many chapters. Each chapter is prefaced with abstracts of all the articles pertaining to the subject considered, classified by dates, together with summaries of the conclusions which appear to be established. Chapter VIII summarizes the various successions proposed, suggests one, and discusses the principles of pre-Cambrian stratigraphy. The Archean is the basal complex of America. It has everywhere, if large areas are considered, an essential likeness. It consists mainly of granitic, gneissic and schistic rocks, among which are never found beds of indubitable clastics. When different kinds of rocks are associated, their structural relations are intricate, which, together with the crystalline schistose character of the rocks, the broken and distorted mineral constituents, and involuted foldings are evidences that these rocks have passed through repeated powerful dynamic movements.

In regard to Algonkian stratigraphy, the writer accepts the structural and lithological principles enunciated by Irving, Pumpelly and Dale. It remains to be demonstrated, however, to the satisfaction of most geologists that the formation termed Algonkian, is not a part of the Cambrian.

² Bulletin of the Geological Survey, No. 86. Correlation Papers. Archean and Algonkian. By Charles R. Van Hise. Washington, 1892.